THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): During Presient Zia ul Haq's visit to India on December 17, 1985, it had been envisaged that PM would visit Pakistan during 1986. However, some of the measures which were to culminate in Prime Minister's visit to Pakistan, as mutually agreed during President Zia's visit have not yet been taken by the Government of Pakistan. therefore, no firm plans have been made so far in this regard.

Incentives for project exports and consultancy services

1331. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are offering certain major incentives for project exports and consultancy services; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) With a view to providing support to project exports and consultancy services, it has been decide to:

(i) grant project assistance to the tune of 10 per cent of the net foreign exchange earnings from the portion of the contracts in respects of industrial turnkey and civil construction projects as well as for export of consultancy services;

(ii) grant Market Development Assistance for reimbursement of cost of bids for turnkey construction projects and consultancy services on a graduated scale for different overseas markets; and

(iii) grant enhanced rates of assistance on a graduated scale to consultancy organisations on the approved recurring expenditure incurred for opening and operating offices.

India as a base for International Drug Trafficking

1332. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has emerged as a major staging point in international drug trafficking;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons therefor;

(c) what is the total quantity of narcotic drugs seized during the last three years and up to 29th July, 1986 and value thereof in the international market;

(d) what is the number of persons apprehended under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985; and

(e) what further steps are proposed to be taken to check drug trafficking effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) It is a fact that India has, for some time past, been increasingly facing problem of transit traffic in drugs, especially in herion and hashish. This is mainly due to the fact that the Near and Middle East Region adjacent to our country, in recent years has emerged as a major source of supply of illicit drugs.

(c) The total quantity of narcotic drugs seized in India during the years 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986 (upto 29-7-1986) is given in the Statement Appended. (See Appendix CXXXIX Annexure No. 82].

No precise value of the drugs seized can be furnished, as the illicit market price varies widely from place to place and time to time, depending upon the purity of the drug, local demand and supply position, place of origin, etc.

(d) As per reports received by the Narcotics Commissioner of India Gwalior, the number of persons arrested for narcotic offences under